



Docket No.: D0188.70170US02
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frederic P. Field et al.
Serial No.: 10/737,197
Confirmation No.: 5833
Filed: December 16, 2003
For: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF USE
Examiner: M. C. Foster
Art Unit: 3731

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 10, 2006

Doris A. Champagne
Doris A. Champagne

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please find the following remarks in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed August 10, 2006.

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.